Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of copying ~~an item~~ a plurality of items implemented in a computer, the method comprising:

if ~~the~~ an item is a directory, spawning a new process; and

if the item is a file, copying the file;

wherein the new process if spawned executes simultaneously or contemporaneously with a current process that performs said spawning, and the new process performs the act of spawning or copying with another item in the directory; and

wherein the current process repeats the act of spawning or copying with yet another item.

Claims 2-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising, prior to the spawning:

comparing a current number of processes, started for copying, with a limit; and

waiting if the current number is greater than or equal to the limit.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 1 further comprising,~~ A method of copying items implemented in a computer, the method comprising:

creating a process if an item to be copied is a directory; and

copying the item if the item is a file, and prior to the copying:

increasing a limit on a resource; and

using the resource at the increased limit during copying.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein: the resource is number of open files.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein: the resource is file size.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein: the resource is memory.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8 wherein: the memory is organized as a stack.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 8 wherein: the memory is organized as a heap.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the copying comprises: transferring data from the file into a temporary buffer; locking the temporary buffer; and invoking a direct memory access (DMA) process for making a copy from the temporary buffer.

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 1 further comprising,~~ A method of copying items implemented in a computer, the method comprising:

creating a process if an item to be copied is a directory; and

copying the item if the item is a file;

wherein prior to the copying: checking if the item is a link to itself, and performing said copying only if the item is not a link to itself.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 12 wherein: the checking includes a string comparison operation.

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 1 further comprising,~~ A method of copying items implemented in a computer, the method comprising:

creating a process if an item to be copied is a directory; and

copying the item if the item is a file;

wherein during the copying: sending an email message if a resource at a destination is full;

wherein the email message is sent to an email address of a user that started the method.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 14 further comprising, during the copying: waiting to be restarted subsequent to sending the email message.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 15 wherein said waiting comprises: sending a signal to self to suspend execution.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method of claim [[14]] 15 further comprising, during the copying: recopying said file from beginning, on being restarted.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method of claim 14 ~~further comprising~~ wherein:
~~identifying an~~ the email address is identified from a password file based on an identity of a said user ~~that started the method to perform the spawning or copying~~.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein:
said spawning is performed only if said directory is not a current directory and not a parent directory.

Claims 20-28 (canceled).

Claim 29 (previously presented): An apparatus for copying items, the apparatus comprising
means for spawning a process if an item to be copied is a directory; and
means for copying the item if the item is a file.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising:
means for sending an email message if the means for copying encounters an error.

Claim 31 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising: means for increasing a limit on a resource to maximum.

Claim 32 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said means for copying comprises:

means for using a temporary buffer; and means for using direct memory access (DMA).

Claim 33 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising: means for checking if the item is a link to itself.

Claim 34 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein:
    the process is started with an instruction to perform said method for each item in the directory.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The method of Claim [[3]] 1 wherein:
    said process executes in parallel with any new process spawned by said repeating.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The method of Claim [[3]] 1 wherein:
    the number of processes created by spawning corresponds to the number of directories to be copied.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 wherein:
    the item is from a list of items to be copied; and
    ~~the method further comprises repeating the act of spawning or copying with~~ said another item and said yet another item are also from said list.

Claim 38 (original): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
    checking if the file is in a list of items to be excluded from copying; and
    performing said copying only if the file is not in said list.

Claim 39 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein:
    the file is copied to multiple destinations if specified by the user.

Claims 40-42 (canceled).

Claim 43 (original): A computer readable storage medium encoded with software, the software comprising instructions to archive an item in a computer by:

spawning a new process, if the item is a directory; and

copying the item, if the item is a file;

wherein the new process if spawned executes simultaneously or contemporaneously with a current process that performs said spawning.

Claim 44 (new): A method of copying items implemented in a computer, the method comprising:

creating a process if an item to be copied is a directory; and

copying the item if the item is a file;

wherein at least one of said creating and said copying is performed for each item; and

wherein depending on a number of directories to be copied, a corresponding number of processes are created.